

Alex's Place

Prior to and following transplant, children receive care at Alex's Place— a 3,200+ square foot pediatric hematology/oncology clinic at UHealth's Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center. Alex's Place was created with children and families in mind. More than simply a treatment site for children with cancer and blood diseases, it is a space designed to empower our patients and support their families. Each chemotherapy bay is equipped with its own flat screen monitor to watch videos or to use as a computer. The ceilings in each exam room include digital art that evokes soothing images of the sky. The common areas of Alex's Place are designed to be interactive and fun for children and their families.

Blood and Marrow Transplant Unit

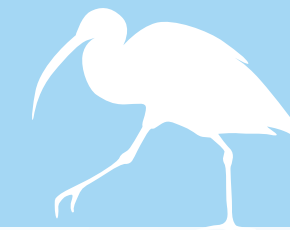
Conditioning for the transplant, stem cell infusion and immediate post-transplant inpatient care will be provided in a brand new Holtz Children's Hospital Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Unit, opening in the fall of 2011. This state-of-the-art, seven-bed unit is designed for optimum family-centered care with lively digital art incorporated into patient rooms and shared spaces. In addition, there will be a playroom dedicated to our pediatric bone marrow transplant patients and a lounge where doctors and parents can have quiet conversations.



Mafi's Story

Diagnosis:
Mafi was diagnosed in infancy with Diamond-Blackfan anemia; a congenital condition characterized by failure of the bone marrow to produce red blood cells.

Treatment:
Mafi was treated with steroids until she became resistant to them at 8 years of age. To overcome low red cell counts, Mafi then needed blood transfusions as often as twice a week. Despite transfusions she had frequent headaches and was always exhausted. Mafi's family and physicians decided to pursue stem cell transplantation as a treatment option. They were referred to Martin Andreansky, M.D., Ph.D at UHealth's Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Program by her pediatric hematologist in Peru. After searching for almost a year, an incompletely matched donor was found. Because this was not a perfect match, the transplant was conducted by removing most of the cells responsible for graft versus host disease. Unfortunately, Mafi's body rejected the transplant. Dr. Andreansky did not give up and tried again, using peripheral blood stem cells from the same donor. After a second round of chemotherapy, the transplant worked and Mafi has returned to the active life of a 10 year old girl.



"I have a normal life now. I can run again...
This was the hospital of my dreams.
I played a lot. And the doctors are very good.
I love them very much. They're like my family."
— Mafi

Contact Information

For additional information or to consult with a member of our blood and marrow transplant team, please call 305-585-7359 or 305-546-4868, send a fax to 786-347-7468 or email Martin Andreansky at mandreansky@med.miami.edu or Silvia Willumsen at swillums@med.miami.edu

**Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center/
University of Miami Hospital and Clinics**
1475 N.W. 12th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33136
305-585-7359

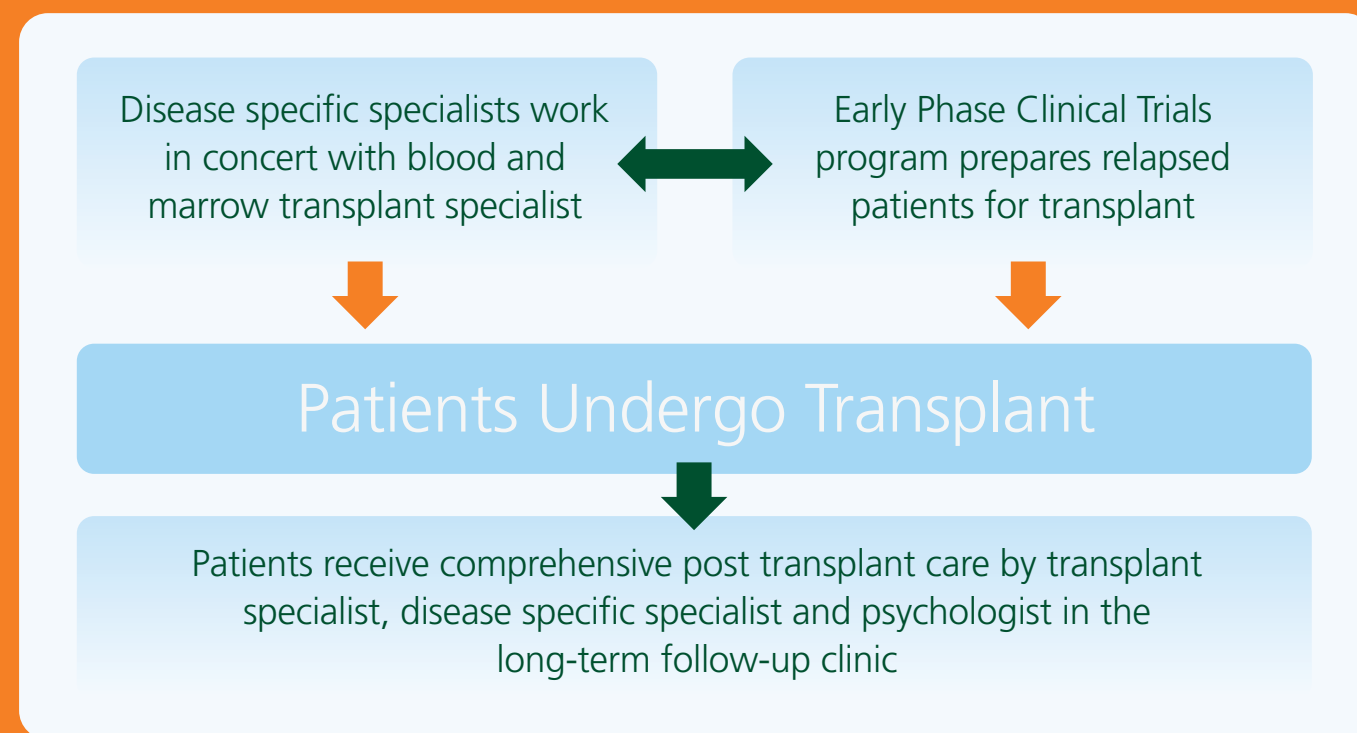
Holtz Children's Hospital
1611 NW 12th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33136
pediatrics.med.miami.edu
305-585-7359

Blood & Marrow Transplant Program



The University of Miami Health System's Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Program at Holtz Children's Hospital has a long history of providing pediatric bone marrow/hematopoietic stem cell transplantation to infants, children and adolescents with leukemias, lymphomas, brain tumors, solid tumors, bone marrow failures, blood diseases, metabolic disorders and congenital immune deficiencies. Our transplant team is part of a

comprehensive pediatric hematology-oncology program led by Julio Barredo, M.D., an internationally recognized expert and leader in the field of childhood leukemias. Within the Division, disease specific pediatric hematologists/oncologists work together to provide continuity of care throughout the course of treatment—leading up to and following bone marrow transplant.



The transplant team performs allogeneic related and unrelated fully matched, mismatched and haploidentical donor transplants as well as matched and mismatched cord blood transplants and autologous peripheral blood stem cell transplants. Patients have access to a diverse donor population through our membership with the National Marrow Donor Program.

Our program is the largest pediatric transplant program in South Florida, performing more than 20 transplants in 2010, and is also accredited by the Foundation for the Accreditation for Cellular Therapy (FACT). As an academic institution with a strong research base, we offer patients access to clinical trials through the Blood and Marrow Transplant Clinical Trials Network (BMTCTN), the Pediatric Bone Marrow Transplant Consortium (PBMTTC), the Children's Oncology Group (COG), Therapeutic Advances in Childhood Leukemia & Lymphoma (TACL) and our own Early Phase Clinical Trials Program.

Team

The Blood and Marrow Transplant Program is led by highly trained and specialized pediatric transplant physicians Martin Andreansky, M.D., Ph.D., and Julio Barredo, M.D. Under their direction, a multi-disciplinary team of pediatric specialists, nurse practitioners, nurse specialists and social workers provide state-of-the-art medical care to patients requiring transplantation.

Martin Andreansky, M.D., Ph.D.

Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Fellowship: St Jude Children's Research Hospital and University of Tennessee College of Medicine, LeBonheur Children's Hospital, Memphis, TN

Clinical Interests: Blood and marrow transplantation; graft versus host disease; conditioning regimens; infections in stem cell transplantation

Research Interests: Graft versus host disease, endothelial damage in transplant patients

Julio Barredo, M.D.

Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Fellowship: Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

Clinical Interests: Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, bone marrow and stem cell transplantation, childhood brain and spinal tumors, pediatric sickle cell disease

Research Interests: Development of targeted therapies for childhood ALL and other childhood malignancies by investigating the biochemical, genetic and cellular mechanisms of novel molecular targets for cancer therapy. Targeting the regulation of cellular bioenergetics by AMPK and related oncogenes and tumor suppressor genes. Biochemical and molecular mechanisms of action of classical and novel antifolates. Pharmacogenetics of childhood ALL.

Jennifer Reichbach, DNP, ARNP

University of Florida: Master of Science in Nursing-Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, University of Florida: Doctor of Nursing Practice

Silvia Willumsen, RN, BSN

Florida International University- Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Deon Wolliston, Ph.D, ARNP

University of Miami: Master of Science in Nursing, Nursing-Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, University of Phoenix: Doctor of Health Administration



Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Program

Ranked by *US News and World Report* as among the best cancer programs in the country, our multi-disciplinary team of skilled pediatric hematologist/oncologists, nurses, psychologists, social workers and other pediatric specialists provide comprehensive, high quality medical care and psychological support for infants, children, adolescents and young adults with all types of childhood cancers, blood disorders, bone marrow failure and congenital immune deficiencies.

We are the only university-based program of our kind in South Florida and are committed to patient care, research and education.

Patient Care

We provide superior care to our patients in a compassionate, family-friendly manner. Patients are assured of receiving the most advanced therapies, allowing children to reach their fullest potential.

Research

With two basic laboratories, an early phase clinical trial program, the depth of resources of the Miller School of Medicine and the Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, and international therapeutic associations, our physician/scientists are committed to advancing current therapies. Team members have received a number of peer-reviewed federal research grants from both the National Cancer Institute and the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, as well as State of Florida Bankhead-Coley grants for cancer research, and research grants from non-profits such as the American Cancer Society, Hyundai Hope on Wheels, the St. Baldrick's Foundation and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of America.

Education

A critical mission for our academic pediatric hematology-oncology program is to train future generations of specialists in the field. To that end, the hematology-oncology fellowship program provides well-balanced hematology and oncology clinical training as well as the opportunity for fellows to conduct basic/translational research.

International Services

Through our international patient program, we are able to assist international patients and their families with:

- Coordination of care
- Financial clearance for self-pay and insured patients
- Concierge services
- Logistic services:
 - Assistance with visa letters
 - Transportation to, from and around campus
 - Complimentary valet parking
 - Hotel and rental car discounts
 - Multilingual staff
 - Support for accompanying family members